nearest post office, population of the villages, the present cost and income of the post office etc. are also to be kept in view before the post office is actually ordered to be discontinued. This case will also be decided accordingly.

Malpractice in the production of drugs

2707. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the drug manuacturing units in the private sector make two varieties of the same medicine, one for sale in the cities and the other for sale in the rural areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that medicines which are sold in the rural areas are not of the same efficacy or are adulterated; and

(c) if so, what is the number of such cases that have come to the notice of Government during the last three years and hte names of the firms involved and the nature of punishment given in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No such instances have come to the notice of this Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

Damages to underground telephone cables

2708. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the main reasons for dislocation of telephone services in the cities is that rampant damage to underground cables by the public utility services;

(b) if so, whether Government have any scheme to demand compensation from these public utility services;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether the provisions of the Prevention of Damages to Public Property Ordniance 1984 could be utilised for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) There is no such proposal as the damages are caused by development activities of various public utility services. However, coordination in road digging operation of various public utility services is being attempted.

Selling price of DMT

2709. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICCI had ind cated in its report, that the selling price of M|s. Bombay Dyeing's DMT would be around Rs. 14,000|- per tonne;

(b) if so, what is its selling price now; and

(c) what are the reasons for which the earlier expectations regarding selling price had gone wrong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) ICICI in its report stated that M|s. Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. assumed the selling price of DMT as Rs. 13,500|- per tonne;

(b) and (c) M|s. Bombay Dyeing have reported that the current selling price of DMT is Rs. 21,500 per tonne and the increase is mainly due to increase that have taken place in the cost of raw materials, power, fuel etc.